



# DOWNTOWN PARKING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, July 10, 2008  
7:30 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.  
Gebhard Meeting Room  
630 Garden Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

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1) **CALL TO ORDER:** 7:30 a.m.

2) **ROLL CALL**

DPC MEMBERS

Marshall Rose	Present
Bill Medel	Present
Randy Rowse	Present
Kate Schwab	Not Present
Tom Williams	Present
Jim Hammock	Present
Bill Collyer	Present

Attendance

CITY STAFF PRESENT :

Browning Allen, Transportation Manager  
Victor Garza, Parking / TMP Superintendent  
Brandon Beaudette, Administrative Assistant  
Rebecca Jimenez, Parking Supervisor  
Roy Forney, Parking Coordinator  
Marck Aguilar, Redevelopment Specialist  
Eric Maple, Project Engineer I

LIAISONS PRESENT:

Grant House, City Council

Others Present

3) **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

None.

4) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 12, 2008.**

It was moved by T. Williams and seconded by Randy Rowse to approve the minutes. The motion was carried 5 yeas/0 nays.

5) **PRESENTATION OF THE RAILCAR PROJECT AT THE DEPOT LOT**

M. Aguilar provided a background on the project. The City of Santa Barbara Redevelopment Agency (RDA) is moving forward with the installation of a vintage railcar on the historic rail spur adjacent to the Moreton Bay Fig tree at the Railroad Depot (209 State Street).

J. Hammock asked who will be responsible for maintenance of the project as time goes on. M. Aguilar responded that Downtown Parking Staff will be responsible for maintaining the site which includes a dehumidifier within the railcar and electricity used to power the unit.

T. Williams stated he is baffled why this is being brought to the Downtown Parking Committee. B. Allen answered that the reason they originally brought this to the committee was due to the loss of a parking space as a result of the project. However, Building and Safety has changed their stance on the location of the Disabled stall and there will not be a loss of a space. He also

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wanted the committee to be aware that there will be a maintenance cost for the project. T. Williams is also concerned that if the railcar needs to be refurbished in later years that Downtown Parking will be stuck with high costs associated with that.

J. Hammock questioned if any alternate sites were considered. M. Aguilar replied that the existing historic rail spur is there so the idea of the project was to put the car on the rail.

M. Rose would like it noted that the regular maintenance of the project is not an issue but if something has to happen down the line then costs for those repairs should come from the General Fund not fall on the demand of Downtown Parking.

B. Medel asked if the same entity that maintains the Fig Tree could also maintain the Railcar. B. Allen stated that the Fig Tree is maintained by the Parks and Recreation Department and structures are typically maintained by the facility not the Parks Department.

R. Rowse has lighting and safety concerns as that area is historically a spot where the homeless congregate. M. Aguilar stated an existing light post would be relocated to the northern side of the car to cast a constant beam of light on the area. Another option being looked at is lighting on the undercarriage of the Railcar.

G. House suggested the item is being brought back to a later meeting with what exact costs that Downtown Parking will be responsible for. B. Allen stated that he would.

M. Rose asked when the Railcar is being installed. M. Aguilar answered that installation is planned for September or October.

### **6) HEAR A REPORT ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE HOURS THE RATES ARE IN EFFECT**

B. Beaudette gave a presentation on hours the rates are in effect. Included in the proposed changes were changing the current hours of 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Sunday to the regular weekday hours of 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Also included were extending the hours on late nights, Friday and Saturday, to 2:00 a.m. instead of 1:15 a.m. and changing the Thursday of Fiesta to charge like a Friday or Saturday.

R. Rowse clarified that the extension of the late night hours would not result in an increase in staffing. Rather staff is currently there at the request of the Police Department for traffic control purposes. B. Beaudette confirmed this statement is correct.

M. Rose stated that he has always found the hours on Sunday to be confusing and likes the idea of keeping things more consistent. B. Allen stated that a public outreach would be done, including a presentation to the Downtown Organization, posting at the kiosks and public meetings.

G. House stated that the argument as to why the need for more revenue is needed would be important, especially during the public outreach, so that can be articulated when it comes to the city council. M. Rose added that the need for consistency in the program and the ability to hold off a rate increase would be very beneficial.

### **7) REPORT ON GRANADA GARAGE PERMITS**

B. Beaudette gave a presentation on the background of the issuance of the Granada Garage permits. There is currently a maximum of 100 monthly permits being issued at the Granada Garage. Staff is recommending that the maximum be increased to 150 permits.

M. Rose asked if there is any conflict with the permits and the special event traffic exiting from the Granada Theater events. V. Garza stated that no significant conflicts have taken place.

R. Rowse inquired if the permits are still done on a month to month basis and if there are plans to issue any more permits to the county. V. Garza replied that permits are still done on a month to month basis with the individual, not the company, and that there are no plans to issue any more permits to the County of Santa Barbara.

It was moved by T. Williams and seconded by Randy Rowse to increase the Granada Garage Permit distribution to 150 permits. The motion was carried 5 yeas/0 nays.

#### **8) PRESENTATION ON MAY BI-ANNUAL OCCUPANCY REPORT**

B. Beaudette presented the May Bi-Annual Occupancy Report. It is a parking lot by parking lot breakdown of the average occupancies of the lots during a two week period in May.

J. Hammock asked what the impact is when a trend is identified in occupancy on a lot to lot basis. R. Jimenez replied that it is an ongoing discussion with staff to identify what might be impacting a lot and what changes need to be made operationally.

#### **9) MONTHLY REPORT ON GRANADA GARAGE PERFORMANCE**

B. Beaudette presented the Monthly Granada Garage Performance Report. He noted that occupancy was down in the evening from the month before due to fewer performances in the evening at the Granada Theater.

#### **10) OPERATIONS UPDATE**

V. Garza gave an update on the Anapamu sidewalk replacement. It is almost completed and is now walk able.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 9:08 a.m.